

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification has been amended to add section headings and a cross reference to the related applications to which priority is claimed in the present case.

Claims 1-137 are pending in the present application. Claims 2-5, 7-16, 18-24, 26-34, 37-46, 48-49, 51-54, 56-74, 76-81, 83-88, 90-94, 96-104, 106-107, 109-113, 116-121, 124-127 and 128-131 have been canceled, without prejudice on disclaimer, to reduce the filing fees due in this case. Applicants specifically reserve their right, however, to seek patent protection for the subject matter of any or all of the canceled claims, either in the present application or else in one or more subsequently filed divisional applications.

In addition, claims 1, 6, 17, 25, 35, 36, 47, 50, 55, 75, 95, 105, 108, 114, 115, 128 and 132 are amended to revise their dependencies and to render their language more appropriate for U.S. practice. Claims 133-137, originally written as Swiss-style "use" claims, have been converted to method claims. Now claim 138 was added to recite the optional elements previously recited in original claim 55. No new matter has been added to the application due to the above-indicated revisions.

Applicants attach hereto a paper copy of the Sequence Listing in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.821, a computer diskette containing a copy of the Sequence Listing in computer readable form, and a Statement In Accordance With 37 C.F.R. §1.821(f). Applicants have hereinabove amended the specification to insert sequence identifiers as necessary and add the attached Sequence Listing as pages 52A-52B into the subject application. Applicants maintain that the amendments to the specification contain no new matter, and respectfully request that this Preliminary Amendment be entered.

Entry of the amendments and the new claim into the file of this application is respectfully requested.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail to Addressee (mail label #EV606189218US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 31, 2005:

Cheryl Desvignes

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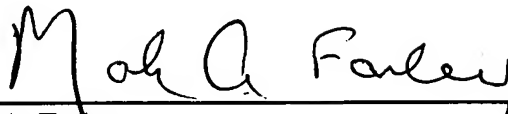

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August 31, 2005

Date of Signature

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Respectfully submitted,



Mark A. Farley

Registration No.: 33,170

OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

1180 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-8403

Telephone: (212) 382-0700